(b) and (c) As per the estimates made by Planning Commission, the number of poor persons in Orissa is estimated as 1.81 crore in 1983 and 1.78 crore in 2004-05, and the number of poor persons in Maharashtra is estimated as 2.91 crore in 1983 and 3.17 crore in 2004-05. Therefore, the number of poor declined in Orissa and increased in Maharashtra during this period. Population growth is the principal reason behind the increase in the number of poor, since in Maharashtra, the poverty ratio i.e., the percentage of poor to the total population declined from 43.4 per cent in 1983 to 30.7 per cent in 2004-05.

(d) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy for reducing poverty: (i) acceleration of economic growth with a focus on sectors which are employment intensive; (ii) human and social development through provision of basic minimum services; and (iii) targeted anti-poverty programmes. A number of programmes/Schemes have been introduced by the Government from time to time to improve the condition of the people living below the poverty line in rural and urban areas, which are also implemented in the above States. These include (i) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), (ii) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), (iii) Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and (iv) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in the rural areas, and (i) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) and (ii) Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in the urban areas.

BPL people in Uttar Pradesh

†1879. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people living below the poverty line in the State of Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the number of families which have risen above the poverty line during the last three years; and

(c) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The latest estimate of the incidence of poverty is available for the year 2004-05, based on the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in its NSS 61st Round (July 2004-June 2005). As per this, the number of persons living below the poverty line in Uttar Pradesh is 590.03 lakh during 2004-05. District-wise estimate of poverty is not available.

(b) and (c) The Planning Commission estimate the percentage and number of persons living below the poverty line at national and State level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest estimate is available for the years 2004-05. As such, the estimate of number of families risen above the poverty line during the last three years can not be estimated.

Increase in BPL people

†1880. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of people living below poverty line has increased over the years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, whether Government is implementing any effective action plan to fulfil basic necessities such as education, health and self-employment of the poor; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage and number of people living below the poverty line from the large sample surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years according to the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor. The comparable estimates of number of people living below poverty line available since 1973-74 are given below:

	Number of Poor (million)
1973-74	321.3
1977-78	328.9
1983	322.9
1987-88	307.1
1993-94	320.3
1999-2000	260.2
2004-05 (URP)	301.7
2004-05 (MRP)	238.5

N.B.: URP = Uniform Recall Period consumption in which the consumer expenditure data for all the items are collected from 30 day recall period.

MRP = Mixed Recall Period consumption in which the consumer expenditure data for five non-food items, namely, clothing, footwear, durable goods, education and institutional medical expenses are collected from 365-day recall period and the consumption data for the remaining items are collected from 30-day recall period.

The poverty estimates of 1993-94 are comparable with the poverty estimates of 2004-05 based on URP consumption.

The poverty estimates of 2004-05 estimated from MRP consumption distribution are roughly (but not strictly) comparable with the poverty estimates of 1999-2000.

The number of people living below the poverty line declined from 321.3 million in 1973-74 to 301.7 million in 2004-05.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Withdrawal of subsidies on items

1881. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government subsidies a number of items, including food-grains, fertilizers and petroleum products for the end users;